

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. In the Listing of Claims, Applicant has amended claims 1 – 31 and added Claim 32.

In the Office Action, the Examiner issued an election/restriction requirement as to claims 1-18 (Species 1) and claims 19-31 (Species 2).

I. RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicant hereby elects prosecution of Species 1 (claims 1-18) without traverse. Accordingly, claims directed to Species 2 (claims 19-31) are presently withdrawn. Applicants have added claim 32, which is a generic claim and upon which all the claims of Species 1 (claims 1-18) and all of the claims of Species 2 (claims 19-31) now depend, directly or indirectly. Accordingly, if claim 32 or another generic claim subsequently added is allowed, applicants will expect the claims directed to Species 2 that depend directly or indirectly from such allowed claims to be considered for rejoinder.

The following remarks are provided for clarification of generic claim 32 and its relation to Species 1 and Species 2. Species 1 (an embodiment of which is illustrated in Figure 7) relates to an expansion output circuit in which a register is used to capture the state of data signals in response to an internally generated strobe signal. Species 2 (an embodiment of which is illustrated in Figure 8) relates to an expansion input circuit in which a buffer is used to pass the state of input signals onto data lines in response to an internally generated enable signal.

Both species 1 and species 2 relate to the concept of generating an internal signal (whether it be a strobe signal or an enable signal), based on a direct transition between two specific states in at least two digital data lines. An embodiment of this direct transition is illustrated as the transition between the **00** state and the **10** state in Figures 4, 5 and 6. Such a direct transition is avoided when performing input or output that is directed to the peripheral instead of the expansion circuit (see Figure 3). Accordingly, new generic claim 32 is directed to an expansion circuit, which may be an

expansion output circuit or an expansion input circuit. Claim 32 recites a logic circuit that generates "an internal signal in response to a direct transition between a first state and a second state of said first and second signals," and recites that such a direct transition is prevented "when changing the state of said first and second signals as necessary to perform input to or output from said peripheral."

Respectfully submitted,

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